

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 10, 2000

Mock Prison Riot 2000: A Corrections Training Exercise & Technology Showcase Event

Tactical teams from Kentucky's Department of Corrections (DOC) and DOC personnel from five other states will be joined by more than 70 corrections and law enforcement technologists at the 4th Annual Mock Prison Riot, to be held May 14-17 at the former West Virginia State Penitentiary in Moundsville.

A training exercise for the corrections community and a showcase for emerging law enforcement and corrections technologies, the event is organized by the Office of Law Enforcement Technology Commercialization (OLETC), a program of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), located at Wheeling Jesuit University; the Moundsville Economic Development Council (MEDC); and the West Virginia Division of Corrections (DOC).

Besides Kentucky, Mock Prison Riot 2000 is expected to attract tactical team participants from the Ohio, Pennsylvania, Colorado, New Jersey, Georgia and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Technologies from intelligent, long-range less-than-lethal weapons to personnel tracking and communication devices to virtual reality simulators will be on display and demonstrated. Ultimately, the event determines the effectiveness of such technologies by placing them in realistic situations, while providing corrections personnel from all over the country with significant training on how to best approach and put an end to a riot situation.

"The Mock Prison Riot has turned into one of the single largest technology events in the corrections world, and it provides us with an unparalleled opportunity to demonstrate actual technologies in a realistic setting," said David Boyd, director of NIJ's Office of Science and Technology.

Diane Quinn, corrections technology agent for OLETC, said, "The 2000 Mock Prison Riot is coming together and we expect it to be the biggest ever. We will have technologists showing less than lethal equipment, biohazard clothing and new developments in restraint systems. All the technology is designed to stop an incident before deadly force is needed."

A welcome reception, hosted by OLETC, will be held at Ramada Plaza City Center Hotel, Wheeling, W.Va., on Sunday, May 14 as a kick-off to the event.

Opening ceremonies for Mock Prison Riot 2000 will begin at 9 a.m. the following day. Technology

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exhibits open at 9:30 a.m., and technology demonstrations will be held throughout the day, beginning at 11 a.m. In addition, tactical teams will participate in cell-extraction exercises throughout the day. A variety of workshops, including "An Overview and Demonstration of Correctional Armor" and "Managerial Analysis of Riots," will be held from 1-4 p.m.

"Training is one of the most important tools we can provide to our staff. Through the use of the latest technology, we can become more efficient and effective in our jobs, make our facilities safer and better functioning, and keep our communities safe," said Doug Sapp, Commissioner of Kentucky's Department of Corrections.

Attending the training event will be Charles Williams, program administrator for Kentucky's DOC. He commented, "Mock Riot provides Kentucky with the opportunity to not only train and learn in a safe environment, but also to share knowledge, information and ideas with our peers. Utilizing the latest in corrections technology, that before now could only be observed in other out-of-state prisons or read about in catalogs, equips us with the hands-on experience and training necessary for our staff," Williams added.

The events on May 16 begin with a welcome at 9 a.m. Prison riot scenarios start at 9 a.m. and technology exhibiting begins at 9:30 a.m. The scenarios are intended to provide corrections personnel significant training on how to best approach and put an end to a riot situation. The technologies being showcased at the event will be used in the scenarios, which will run through 5 p.m. as the highlight of the day's activities. Scenarios planned include a food fight in the prison cafeteria and a disturbance in the south yard that erupts during an inmate football game.

"The Riot was the beginning of a very strong and productive partnership created to provide training and technology exposure for corrections and law enforcement agencies. This event will also be a springboard for economic development and growth opportunities for not only Marshall County, but the entire Northern Panhandle area," said Rachel Miller, executive director of the MEDC.

On May 17, an event critique of Mock Prison Riot 2000 will be held at the Ramada Plaza City Center Hotel.

Mock Prison Riot 2000, designed specifically for law enforcement and corrections personnel, is not open to the public.

For more information on Mock Prison Riot 2000, check out their website at www.oletc.org.

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Mock Prison Riot 2000 Schedule of Events

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2000

8 a.m.-5 p.m.	Registration – At Prison – Technologists
3-7 p.m.	Registration – At Ramada – Correctional/Law Enforcement Personnel
5:30-7:30 p.m.	Buffet Reception – At Ramada – All (more)

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MONDAY, May 15, 2000

7 a.m. Registration – North Gate – Technologists
8 a.m. Registration – South Gate – All corrections and Law Enforcement personnel

MEDIA SHOULD ENTER THROUGH NORTH GATE

9 a.m. Cell Extractions – Tactical Participants Only
9 a.m. Opening Ceremonies – Prison Industries (PI) Building
9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Technology Showcase Viewing – PI Building
11 a.m.-noon Outdoor Demonstrations – Outside PI Building –
noon-1 p.m. Lunch – Near North Gate
1-4:30 p.m. **Workshops** – Open to All
2-4:30 p.m. Outdoor Demonstrations
5:30-7:30 p.m. Reception

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2000

8 a.m. Gates Open - All
8:30 a.m. Inmate Meeting – Main Dining Room
MEDIA SHOULD ENTER THROUGH NORTH GATE
9 a.m. Welcome – Prison Industries Building – All
9 a.m.-noon Scenarios
9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Technology Showcase
noon-1 p.m. Lunch – North Gate Area
1-5 p.m. Scenarios
5:30-7:30 p.m. Reception – The Mound – across from Prison – All

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2000

8:30-10:30 a.m. Critique – At Ramada – All
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Mock Prison Riot 2000 Scenarios Involving Kentucky's Department of Corrections

Scenerio: 1KY
Location: J Block
Tactical Team: KY Department of Corrections
Time: 11 a.m.
Description: One inmate in cell with sheet tying door, destroying contents; second inmate in cell also tied door shut has razor blade and threatening suicide.

Scenerio: 2KY
Location: North Hall
Tactical Team: KY Department of Corrections
Time: 1 p.m.
Description: Ten inmates in dorm refuse to lockdown and start tearing up cellblock. Corrections officers get out and area is secured. Two inmates surrender after negotiation; others will have to be secured by team. SMOKE is deployed for entry.

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